

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-07 TRSE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 SAB-01 COME-00 NEA-10

/081 W

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R 032206Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9053

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 5892

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, DR, VE

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER - VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT'S
VISIT

REF: A) SANTO DOMINGO 5889, B) SANTO DOMINGO 5853, C) SANTO
DOMINGO 5854

1. DURING CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL A), THE SUBJECT OF THE
RECENT BRIEF VISIT BY PRESIDENT PEREZ AROSE. IN RESPONSE TO
MY QUERY, BALAGUER DESCRIBED PEREZ AS DYNAMIC, DEMAGOGIC AND
A BIT IMPETUOUS. HE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT ROMULO
BETANCOURT WAS A STEADYING INFLUENCE.

2. AS FOR THE PERTROLEUM-SUGAR AGREEMENT, HE REITERATED HIS
DISAPPROVAL OF "VENEZUELAN IMPERIALISM," I.E. GOUGING
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THEN LENDING THEM THEIR MONEY AT
8 PERCENT INTEREST. VENEZUELA'S ACQUIESCENCE IN PURCHASING
DOMINICAN SUGAR AT PRICES EQUAL TO THAT PAID ITS OWN PRO-
DUCERS (WHO ARE LESS EFFICIENT THAN THE DOMINICAN PRODUCERS)
SERVED TO DIMINISH THE INTEREST RATE, HE OBSERVED.

3. HE WAS A BIT EMBARRASSED ABOUT THE JOINT DECLARATION
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CONTAINING "THIRD WORLD" LANGUAGE AND SUPPORT FOR PANAMA'S

CANAL ASPIRATIONS. HE SAID THESE CAME AT VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE AND HE SUPPOSED, WITH RESIGNATION, THAT THEY CONSTITUTED THE TYPICAL "FIREWORKS" ACCOMPANYING VISITS BY HIGH RANKING LATIN AMERICANS THESE DAYS.

4. I INQUIRED ABOUT PEREZ'S VIEWS REGARDING A NEW PETROLEUM PRICE RISE. BALAGUER REPLIED THAT PEREZ SAID THAT NO DECISION AS YET HAD BEEN REACHED AS TO WHETHER THERE WOULD BE ANY INCREASE. IF AN INCREASE WERE APPROVED, PEREZ REPORTEDLY SAID IT WOULD NOT EXCEED 10 PERCENT. PEREZ CONTINUED THAT IRAQ AND TO SOME EXTENT ALGERIA WERE THE PRINCIPAL ADVOCATES OF A PRICE INCREASE.
HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

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